Christ the King

November 22, 2026

10:00 Casual Blended Service

Bethany Lutheran Church

4500 E Hampden Ave, Cherry Hills Village, CO 80113

www.bethany-denver.org

Bethany Advent Fest

Get Ready

Sunday, November 29th
11:15 AM - 1:00 PM
Great Hall

Lunch provided!

Sing-along

Outreach Project

Craft Rotations

All ages are welcome!
Families are encouraged to attend together.



Register here!

New to Bethany? Stop by the Mission Center for a welcome to Bethany Gift.

+ We Prepare Our Hearts +

Prelude Festive March Paul Fey

Welcome to Worship

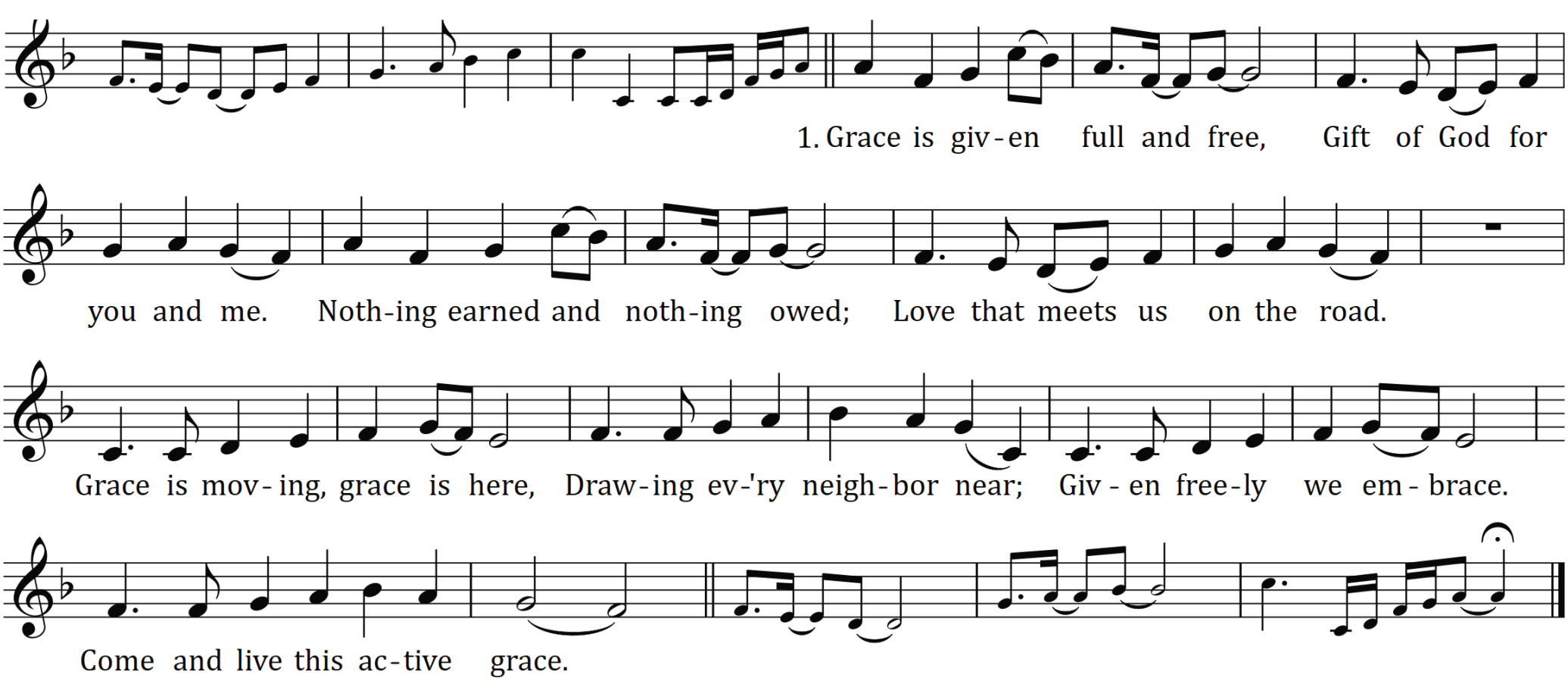
Deacon Debra Alba

To fill out your digital connection card, go to:

www.tinyurl.com/BethanyConnect.

Song of Praise

Active Grace



A Time of Confession

God of Mercy,

Help me to be more aware of those places in my life that do not align with your best intentions for me. I ask for your forgiveness: when I ignore the challenges my neighbors face; when I focus on my desires more than my neighbors' needs; when I convince myself that my worth is greater than other's. Please continue to open pathways for me to walk in your ways.

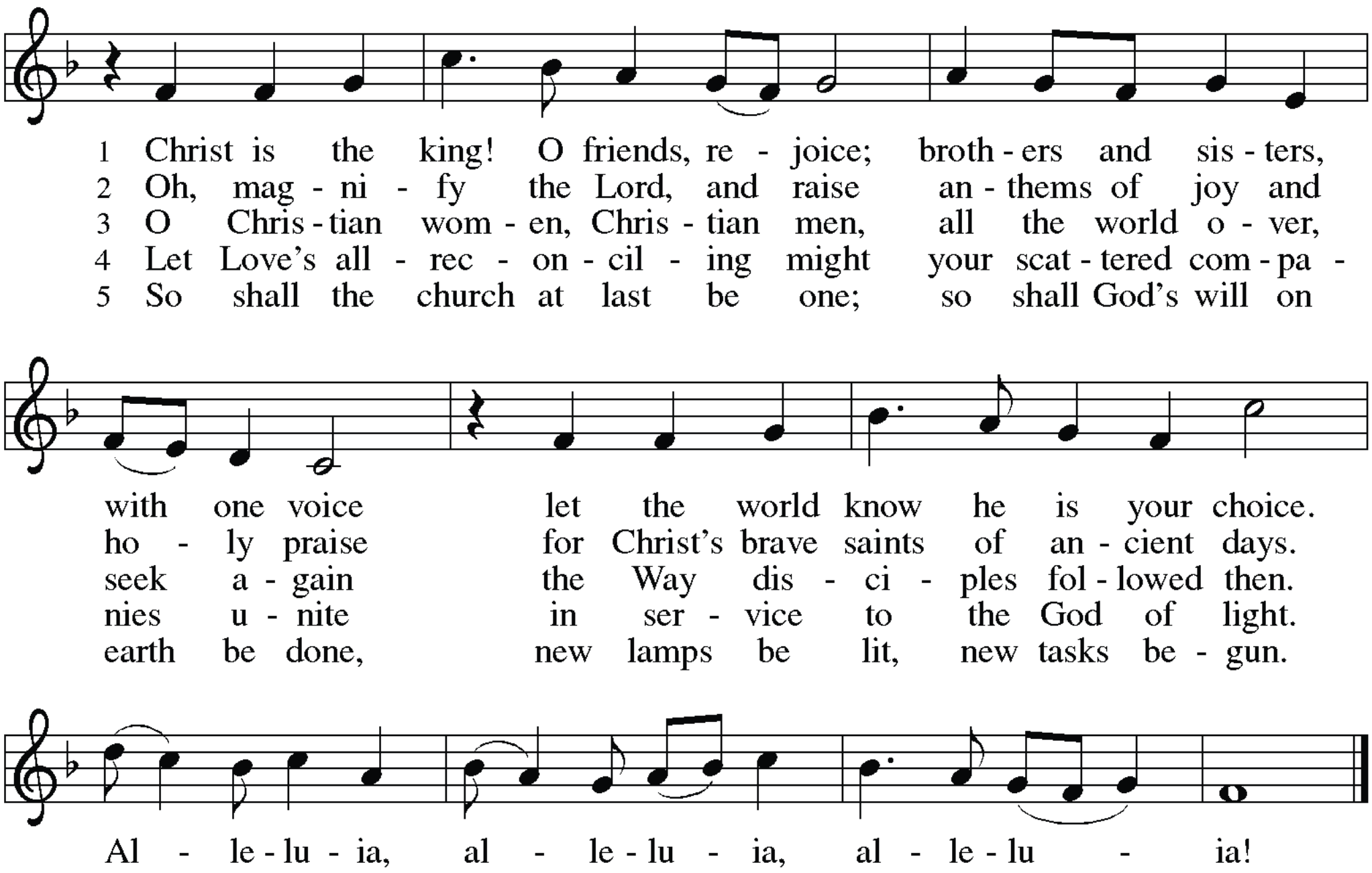
God's Gift of Forgiveness

God forgives you of all your sins. God recognizes when you fail to be your best self, and through the gift of Jesus, God sets you free. You are free from your sin, free to live in God's mercy, and free to extend that mercy to others. **Amen**

Opening Song

Christ is the King!

ELW 662



Text: George K.A. Bell, 1883-1958, alt.
Music: BEVERLY, Charles R. Anders, b. 1929
Text from *Songs of Praise, Enlarged Edition*, © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.
Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Greeting

Deacon Debra Alba

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

O God of power and might, **your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

Children's Sermon

Deacon Debra Alba

Children's Worship

Prepare to Hear God's Word Active Grace



+ We Encounter God's Word +

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Because Israel's kings proved to be bad shepherds, Ezekiel declares that the Lord will assume the role of shepherd in Israel. The Lord will also set over them a shepherd-messiah, "my servant David," who will feed and care for the people.

11 Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out. 12 As
shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered sheep, so I will sort out my
sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of
clouds and thick darkness. 13 I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the
countries and bring them into their own land, and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel,
by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. 14 I will feed them with good
pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in
good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. 15 I myself
will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. 16 I will
seek the lost, and I will bring back the strays, and I will bind up the injured, and I will
strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

20 Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep
and the lean sheep. 21 Because you pushed with flank and shoulder and butted at all the weak
animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, 22 I will save my flock, and
they shall no longer be ravaged, and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

23 I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them; he shall
feed them and be their shepherd. 24 And I the Lord will be their God, and my servant David
shall be prince among them; I the Lord have spoken.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel: Matthew 25: 31-46

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord**

Jesus said to the disciples: [31] "When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels
with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. [32] All the nations will be gathered
before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the
sheep from the goats, [33] and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the
left. [34] Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by
my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, [35] for I
was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I
was a stranger and you welcomed me, [36] I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was
sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' [37] Then the righteous
will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty
and gave you something to drink? [38] And when was it that we saw you a stranger and
welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? [39] And when was it that we saw you sick
or in prison and visited you?' [40] And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as
you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to
me.' [41] Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You who are accursed, depart from me
into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, [42] for I was hungry and you gave
me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, [43] I was a stranger and you
did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you
did not visit me.' [44] Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you
hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of
you?' [45] Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the
least of these, you did not do it to me.' [46] And these will go away into eternal punishment
but the righteous into eternal life."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O, Christ.**

Sermon

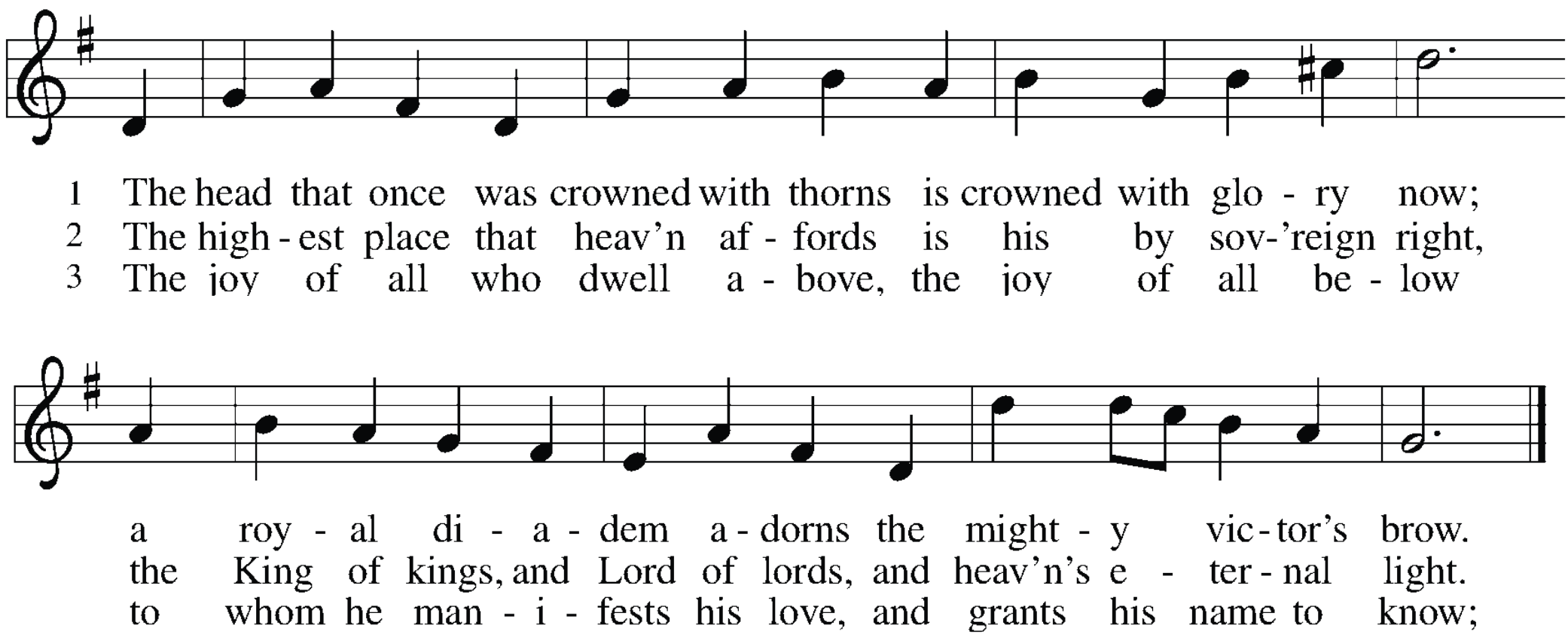
Paster Gary Sandberg

Sermon Notes

Song of the Day

The Head That Once Was Crowned

ELW 432



Text: Thomas Kelly, 1769–1855

Music: ST. MAGNUS, Jeremiah Clarke, 1669–1707

A Statement of Our Faith

Pastor Nate Preisisnger

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Prayers of the People

We Share God's Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always! **And also with you.**

(Please share a sign of peace with those around you.)

+ We Worship God With Our Offerings +

Abundantly Bethany

Pastor Nate Preisinger

- **Christmas Decorating TODAY**
- **Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service and Pie Fest 11/25**
- **MomCo Bake Sale TODAY**
- **Advent Fest**
- **Journey of Paul - Bethany trip with Pastor Gary Info session 11:20, room 210**

The Offering

You can give in the following ways; Thank you for your gifts!

- On our **website**, find the GIVE button in the header at: **Bethany-Denver.org**
- Through **SubSplash -** Use your phone's camera to scan this **QR Code**
- Unlock your phone, hold near the **NFC card** (on pew back), and wait for the notification to appear
- **Mail** in your check to the office (4500 E. Hampden Ave. Cherry Hills Village, CO 80113)
- Sunday mornings, drop your offering in the plate as it is passed

Musical Offering

Crown Him! arr. Dan Forrest

Chancel Choir, dir. Kirk Schjodt

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne:
Hark! How the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee
And hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.
Crown him the Lord of Love; behold his hands and side-
Rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his wondering eye at mysteries so bright.
Crown him the Lord of life; who triumphed o'er the grave,
Who rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing, who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring and lives that death may die.

Children Return to the Sanctuary

+ The Community Meal +

Invitation to The Communion Table

Pastor Gary Sandberg

Celebration of Holy Communion

In a world where so much is uncertain,
Christ offers us a promise.

Even as we wait for all things to be made new,
God meets us here in bread and wine.

At this table, we receive a glimpse of the life God has promised.
A life where all are welcome and restored.

We taste the promise of what is to come,
and find hope for the journey ahead.

Blessing of the Bread and Wine

The Lord's Prayer (Ecumenical translation)

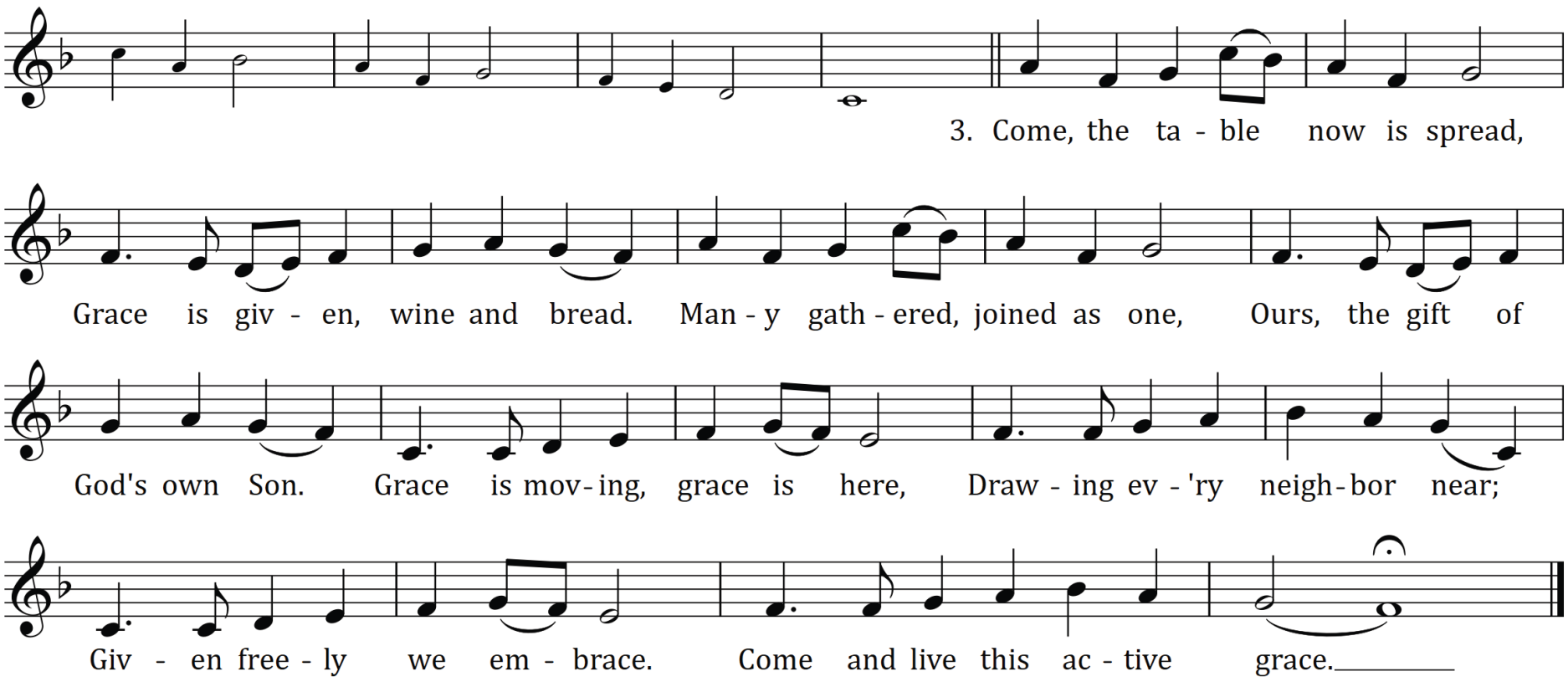
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

Communion Instruction

Receive communion by dipping the bread into the wine. Pre-packaged communion sets are alcohol free; gluten-free options are available. Groups are welcome to visit a communion station together. Those who are not receiving communion are invited to cross their arms across their chest to receive a blessing.

Communion Song

Active Grace



Communion Music

Also hat Gott die Welt geliebt

Henrich Schütz

Chancel Choir, dir. Kirk Schjodt

Also hat Gott die Welt geliebt
daß er seinen eingebornen Sohn gab
auf daß alle die an ihn glauben
nicht verloren werden
sondern das ewige Leben haben.

For God so loved the world,
that he sent his only begotten Son,
that whosoever believeth in him
should not perish,
but have everlasting life.

Communion Song

Lord of Glory, You have Bought Us

ELW 707

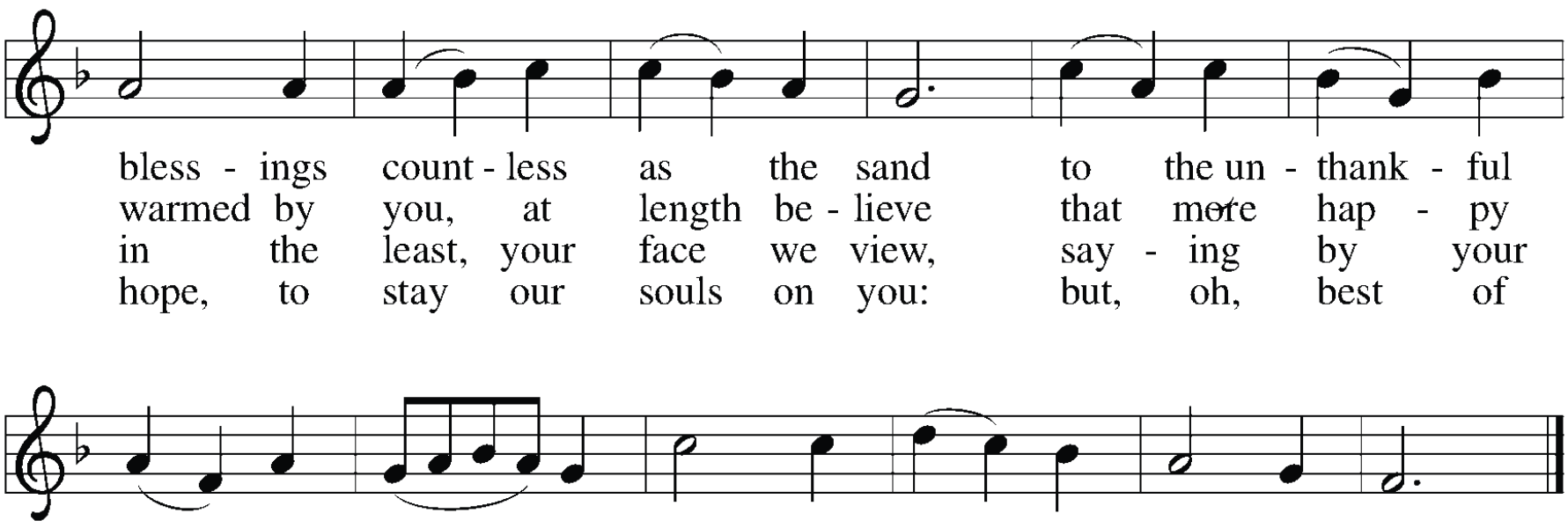


1 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us with your life - blood
2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you glad - ly, free - ly,
3 Won - drous hon - or you have giv - en to our hum - blest
4 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us with your life - blood



as the price, nev - er grudg - ing for the lost ones that tre -
of your own. With the sun - shine of your good - ness melt our
char - i - ty in your own mys - te - rious sen - tence, "You have
as the price, nev - er grudg - ing for the lost ones that tre -

men - dous sac - ri - fice; and with that have free - ly giv - en
thank - less hearts of stone till our cold and self - ish na - tures,
done it all to me." Na - ked, sick, in pris - on, hun - gry—
men - dous sac - ri - fice. Give us faith to trust you bold - ly,



bless - ings count - less as the sand to the un - thank - ful
warmed by you, at length be - lieve that more hap - py
in the least, your face we view, say - ing by your
hope, to stay our souls on you: but, oh, best of

and the e - vil with your own un - spar - ing hand.
and more bless - ed 'tis to give than to re - ceive.
poor and need - y, "Give as I have giv'n to you."
all your grac - es, with your love our love re - new.

Text: Eliza S. Alderson, 1818–1889, alt.
Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

Table Blessing

+ God Sends Us To Serve +

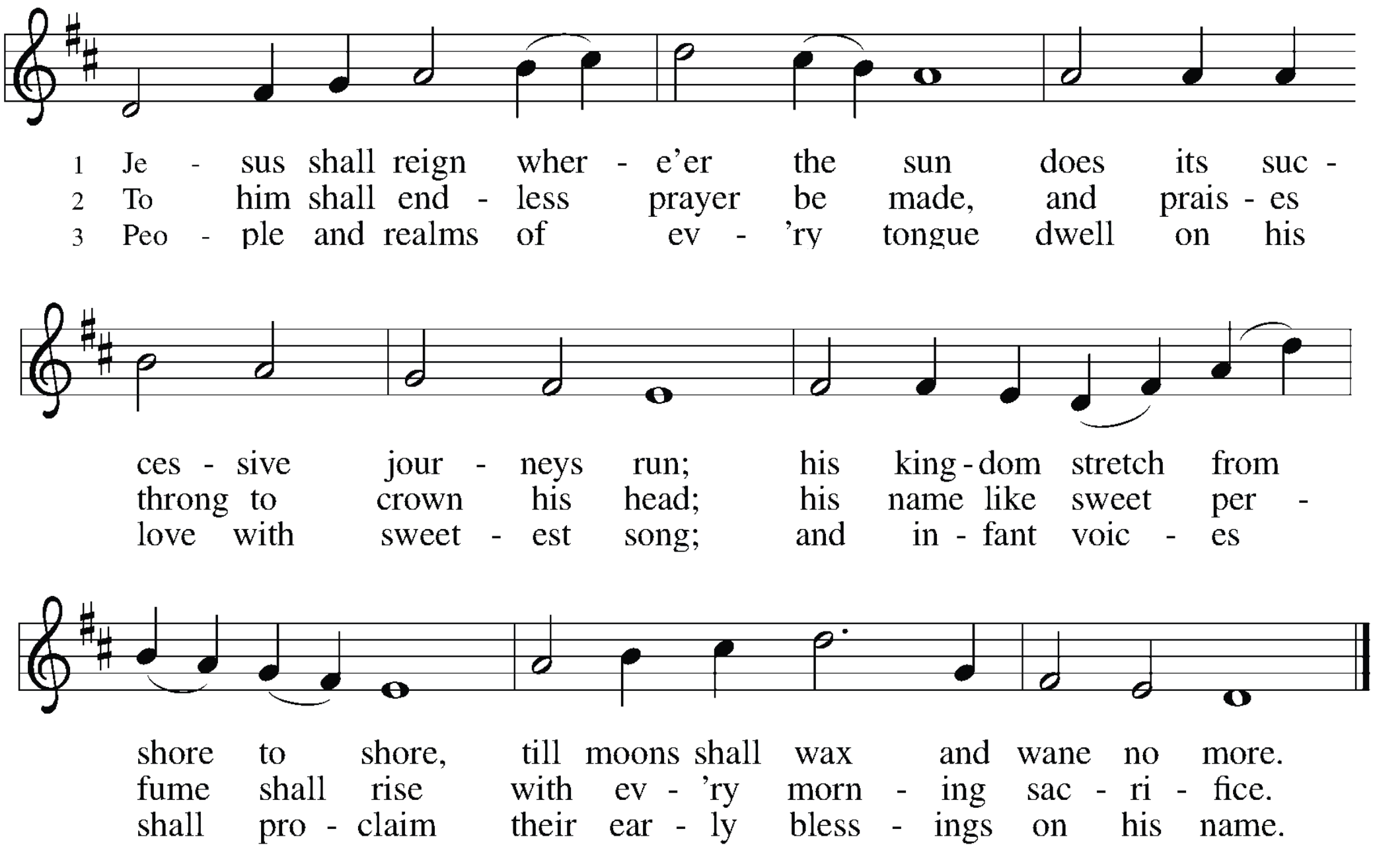
Sending Invitation and Blessing

Pastor Gary Sandberg

Song of Sending

Jesus Shall Reign

ELW 434



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

Dismissal

As we go forth into the week ahead we remember our calling as the people of Bethany. Together we will:

Worship and encounter a God who loves us;

Embrace healthy dialogue that promotes unity over division;

Respond to the needs of the world through generosity and action.

With this as our mission, go in peace, serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Postlude on "Diademata"

Rick Seaton

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Bethany Lutheran Church-Holiday Schedule



Nov 25 - Thanksgiving Eve Worship and Pie Fest

Nov 29 - Advent Fest

Dec 6 - Sunday of Advent

Dec 9 - Birthday Party for Jesus (last Wednesday of full programming)

Dec 13 - Sunday of Advent

Dec 20 - Sunday of Advent

Dec 24 - Christmas Eve Worship, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00. and 7:00pm

Dec 24- Jan 2 - Holiday Office hours 10-2pm

Dec 27 - One Worship Service, 10am

Dec. 27 - Service of Rememberance, 11:30am

Jan 3 - One worship service, 10am

Jan 6 - Ephiphany - a night of songs of the season

Jan 13 - First Wednesday of full programming

Monthly *United in Faith* Update

• As of 9/30/26 and based upon commitments received to date, the United in Faith Campaign will generate $4.7mm in funds to support capital renovation projects. In addition, $561k will be contributed into a maintenance reserve fund established by the Executive Council in October and $280k will be transmitted to ELCA World Hunger efforts as the funds are received over the next three years. To date, $257k has been expended on parking lot renovations and the Facility Conditions Assessment.

• The Facility Conditions Assessment is expected to be final early in December. The Facilities & Operations Team is already considering findings from the assessment. The Xcel Energy Audit was recently received and stormwater and sewer lines will be fully scoped in November. Information and recommendations from these evaluations will be critical in budgeting, prioritizing and successfully executing capital improvements. A great deal more to follow!

• Campus cleandown continues and soon you'll have an opportunity to come inside and help! Thanks to all who met on Halloween and beautified Bethany's campus!

• Notice anything in need of attention? Have comments or questions? Reach out to our team at facilities@bethany-denver.org.

Upcoming Bethany Arts Concerts

Denver Brass
Organ Pipes & Horns of Plenty
Saturday, November 21st 2:30 PM
Sunday, November 22nd 2:30 PM

Here We Stand
Kessler Collection & Concert - BLC Event
Saturday, November 21st 6:30 PM

Canto Deo
Advent Service - Lessons and Carols
Sunday, November 29th 3:00 PM

Kantorei and Cherry Creek H.S. Meistersingers
A Winters Night!
Thursday, December 3rd 7:30 PM

Salvation Army
Annual Christmas Concert!
Sunday, December 6th 4:00 PM

Chamber Music Society of Greater Denver
American Winter: Broadway, Hollywood & Holiday Memories
Tuesday, December 8th 1:00 PM

Cherry Creek Chorale
City Carols and Country Cheer!
Friday, December 11th 7:00 PM and
Saturday, December 12, 7:00 PM

Denver Brass Presents the Aries Brass Quintet (Free Concert)
Our quintet's holiday gift of Christmas favorites.
Saturday, December 12th 2:30PM

Augustana Arts Presents
The Denver Jazz Orchestra
Frday, December 18th 7:00 PM

Colorado Chorale
Home for the Holidays!
Saturday, December 19th 7:00 PM

Things to Know About News & Events

Happening Today:

- Pick Up your **Angel Gifts Tags** by the Mission Center
- **Bethany Christmas Decorating** after both services
- **MomCo bake sale** Fellowship Hall
- **Journey of Paul** - Bethany trip with Pastor Gary Info sessions, 9:35 and 11:20, room 210
- **Adult Ed -** Warren Boos

Happening Next Sunday:

- **Angel Gifts** drop-offs by the Mission Center
- **Advent Fest Nov 29** after worship in the Great Hall - food, crafts, devotions and fun for all.

Upcoming Events

Worship:

- **Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service Nov 25 6:30pm** - pie fest will follow worship

Education/Faithformation:

- **Journey of Paul** - Bethany trip with Pastor Gary Info sessions Wednesday, Nov 25 at 6:00p (right before worship).
- **Book Study "**Low Anthropology" by David Zahl Dec. 6 & 13

Hospitality:

- **Women of Bethany:** December 5 12pm we will gather at Ted's Montana Grill in the Landmark DTC area.

Outreach:

- Beginning Nov. 22 **Off-drive food donations** to the Market@IFCS can be dropped off in the cart beside the Mission Desk on Sunday mornings and by the south door during the week.

- **Angel Gifts 2026 -** Angel Gifts Holiday Donation Drive sponsored by Lutheran Family Services Nov 22, 29 & Dec 6 next to the Mission Center
- **Food Bank of the Rockies** Dec 8 1-4pm pack food for those in need. 12 volunteers are needed

Look for full details for all our news and events on the Bethany website: Bethany-denver.org/news



Sock Drive



Throughout the month of December Bethany will be collecting NEW toddler's and children's socks for Wholly Kicks, a local non-profit that mentors and builds relationships by 'walking with' individuals experiencing economic disparity. We'll have collection boxes at both the north and south entrances of the church for these donations.



Thank you for your generosity!







Birthday Party for Jesus!

On Wednesday, **December 9th from 5:15-7:00pm** we will hold our Annual Birthday Party for Jesus celebration. We will have dinner from 5:15-6 pm and our activities will be from 6-7 pm. There will be Birthday cake, Trivia, and a Christmas Carol sing-a-long.



All ages are invited to join in !

P.S. - Don't forget to bring socks for our ongoing sock drive!



Things To Know About Worship

Welcome to Bethany! If you have questions or would like to consider making Bethany your church home, visit our website, Bethany-Denver.org, or stop by the Newcomer Nook after worship. The pastoral team, consisting of Pastor Gary Sandberg (he/him), Pastor Nate Preisinger (he/him), Deacon Debra Alba (she/her) and Director of Pastoral Care Janet Mortinsen (she/her), is available to speak with you.

Bethany Lutheran Church values people of diverse race, sexual identity, ethnicity, and political affiliation. All are welcome at Bethany Lutheran Church and this community is enriched because you are here. We are together for good!

Sunday Worship services: (8:30am Traditional) - worship follows traditional Lutheran liturgy. (10:00am Casual Blended) a flow of worship that includes the elements of Lutheran worship with music that spans multiple genres and brings some creative ways to engage the theme of the day. Worship leaders are generally dressed more casually.

Participating in Worship: There will be times during worship when you are invited to stand, but if it is more comfortable or more meaningful for you to remain seated, please feel free to do so.

Communion Statement: Everyone gathered for worship is invited to take part in Communion. Jesus did not place any barriers around who received communion and neither does Bethany.

Safety: Bethany Lutheran Church is committed to maintaining a safe and welcoming environment for everyone. If at any time you feel uncomfortable, unsafe or have concerns, please speak with one of our staff or designated leaders. We are here to listen and to support you.

Hearing Assistance Device: Please see the Sound Tech in the A/V booth at the rear of the Sanctuary if you need a hearing assistance device.

Worship Servants: Thank you to all the A/V team, Ushers, Communion Servers, Altar Guild, Musicians, Embrace Volunteers and Sacristans for your work to greet people and make worship happen. We always welcome Worship Servants - go to www.signupschedule.com/Bethany to sign up!

Children at Bethany: Children and youth are a blessing from God and we love having children in the Sanctuary! Additionally, we offer several options for children and families to feel comfortable in a variety of spaces on Sunday mornings:

Fidget Station: We know that all of God's children (young and old) are wonderfully and fear fully made in the image of God. And, at Bethany, ALL are welcome to worship. Available outside the Sanctuary's north doors is a Fidget Station. Children and adults are invited to use these fidgets and art supplies to aid in your spiritual growth and presence in worship. Please return items to the station when you are finished.

Busy Bags: Near the Sanctuary doors you will find premade bags perfect for littles. Pick one up on the way in and return it on the way out.

Nursery: For directions to our staffed Nursery, please speak with an usher.